

Listing of the Claims

The following Listing of the Claims will replace all prior versions and all prior listings of the claims in the present application:

Claims 1-10 (Previously Canceled)

~~11.~~ (Amended)

A stylet for removing tissue or embedding media from a coring needle, comprising:

a stylet needle comprising a pushing surface and a connecting end, said pushing surface for pushing tissue or embedding media from said coring needle, said connecting end for connecting to a stylet body;

a stylet support tube extending from the stylet body that surrounds a portion of the stylet needle;

a stylet body comprising a lumen for receiving at least said connecting end of said stylet needle and for preventing rotation of said stylet needle within said stylet body; and

wherein at least said pushing surface of said stylet needle comprises a material which can maintain a temperature from -20° to 4°C during the process of removing tissue or embedding material from said coring needle.

~~12.~~ (Previously Added)

The stylet according to claim ~~11~~¹, wherein the diameter of said stylet needle's pushing surface is greater than 0.6 mm.

~~13.~~ (Previously Added)

The stylet according to claim ~~12~~², wherein said diameter ranges from 0.7 mm to 5 mm.

~~4~~
14. (Previously Added)

The stylet according to claim ~~11~~, wherein ^{the diameter of the pushing surface} ~~said diameter~~ is less than 0.6 mm in diameter.

~~5~~
15. (Amended)

The stylet according to claim ~~13~~¹, wherein ^{the diameter of the pushing surface} ~~said diameter~~ is at least 2 mm.

~~6~~
16. (Previously Added)

The stylet according to claim ~~11~~¹, for slideably fitting within a coring needle ranging from 0.3 to 2.0 mm in diameter.

~~7~~
17. (Previously Added)

The stylet according to claim ~~11~~¹, wherein said stylet needle comprises steel or plastic.

~~8~~
18. (Previously Added)

The method according to claim ~~11~~¹, wherein said pushing surface of the stylet needle is a non-stick surface.

~~9~~
19. (Amended)

The stylet according to claim ~~13~~⁸, wherein said non-stick surface is selected from the group consisting of: polypropylene, teflon, nylon, polyethylene, derivatives and combinations thereof.

~~10~~
20. (Previously Added)

The stylet according to claim ~~11~~¹, wherein said stylet body comprises polypropylene or brass.

~~11~~
21. (Previously Added)

The stylet according to claim ~~11~~¹, wherein said stylet body comprises a stylet base and a stylet cap, said stylet cap for receiving at least the connecting end of said stylet, said stylet base for slideably moving along the length of the stylet needle distal to the connecting end.

~~22~~
22. (Canceled)

~~23~~
23. (Amended)

The stylet according to claim ~~22~~¹, wherein said stylet support tube prevents rotation of the needle within said stylet support tube.

~~12~~
24.

(Previously Added)

The stylet according to claim ~~21~~¹¹, wherein said stylet cap and stylet base are separated by a resilient element.

~~13~~
25.

(Previously Added)

The stylet, according to claim ~~24~~¹³, wherein said resilient element is a spring.

~~15~~
26.

(Previously Added)

The stylet according to claim ~~14~~¹, wherein said stylet body comprises an opening for receiving a graspable element.

~~16~~
27.

(Previously Added)

The stylet, according to claim ~~26~~¹⁵, wherein said stylet comprises said graspable element inserted partially within said opening.

~~17~~
28.

(Previously Added)

The stylet according to claim ~~14~~¹, wherein said stylet body comprises a plastic that withstands low temperature impact forces.

~~18~~
29.

(Previously Added)

The stylet according to claim ~~14~~¹, wherein said stylet body comprises mineral reinforced polypropylene.

~~19~~
30.

(Previously Added)

The stylet according to claim ~~14~~¹, further comprising a surface for connection with an actuation means for moving the stylet.

~~20~~
31.

(Previously Added)

The stylet according to claim ~~14~~¹, further comprising a joining section for coupling to a tissue microarrayer.

~~21~~
32.

(Previously Added)

The stylet according to claim ~~31~~²⁰, wherein said joining section comprises a surface for fitting onto a dowel in a tissue microarrayer, said dowel holding said stylet in a fixed position.

Claims 33-40 ~~(Withdrawn from consideration)~~^{Canceled}